

We claim:

1. A solid-state image sensor, comprising: plural pixels arrayed in a matrix and storing charges in proportion to amount of incident light; and a gain variable amplifier amplifying pixel signals sequentially read from the plural pixels at a fixed cycle time, an amplification factor of which can be varied, and being able to set a storage time during which the plural pixels store charges to an arbitrary value in a time range narrower than a period of the fixed cycle time, wherein the sensor comprises: a brightness/illumination flicker detection section detecting brightness and illumination flicker of an incident light image; and a control section varying the amplification factor of the gain variable amplifier in accordance with the detected brightness and a set value of the storage time as well as varying the storage time step by step to either of plural flicker-less times at which the illumination flicker is not caused in accordance with the detected brightness and the illumination flicker.

2. The solid-state image sensor, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the control section sets the storage time to $n/100$ sec (n is a positive integer) when the illumination flicker detected by the brightness/illumination flicker detection section has a light emission period corresponding to the case where a fluorescent lamp is lit at 50Hz.

3. The solid-state image sensor, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the control section sets the storage time to $n/120$ sec (n is a positive integer) when the illumination flicker detected by the brightness/illumination flicker detection section has a light emission period corresponding to the case where a fluorescent lamp is lit at 60Hz.

4. The solid-state image sensor, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the brightness/illumination flicker detection section detects average luminance of the pixel

signal for each frame in fixed average luminance detection areas assigned in a frame, calculates a difference in the average luminance between frames, and judges whether the illumination flicker is caused by a fluorescent lamp lit at 50Hz or 60Hz from the calculated difference in the average luminance.